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Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-05 INR-10 L-03 ACDA-12
NSAE-00 PA-01 SS-15 SP-02 TRSE-00 DODE-00 /061 W
----------005383 071715Z /43
R 071335Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
TO USMISSION USNATO
INFO USIA WASHDC
SECSTATE WASHDC 2187

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USNATO FOR USIS

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS:
SUBJ: ARTICLE ON ER/RB DISCUSSIONS

1. VOLKSKRANT, MARCH 6, UNDER HEADLINE: U.S. GOVERNMENT MAD AT LUNS, CARRIES FOLLOWING: QUOTE IN WASHINGTONTHEY ARE UNHAPPY WITHTHE HOT POTATO GAME BEING PLAYED BY THE EUROPEAN ALLIES. FRIDAY A WEEK AGO THE AMERICAN SALT DELEGATION PROVSED A THREE PHASE PLAN IN THE NATO PERMANENT COUNCIL IN BRUSSELS. AMERICA WILL DECIDE TO BEGIN PRODUCTION OF THE NEUTRON WEAPON. THAT WILL TAKE TWO YEARS. IN THAT TIME AN AGREEMENT MUST BE REACHED WITH THE RUSSIANS ABOUT A TRADE-OFF, SPECIFICALLY WITH THE SS-20 ROCKET. THAT IS A "EUROPEAN" WITH A MIRVED WARHEAD.

2. THE KEY TO THE AMERICANPROPOSAL TO THE NATOPARTNERS IS THAT THEY DECLARE THEMSELVES IN AGREEMENT WITH THIS COURSE. IF THE DISCUSSIONS WITH THE RUSSIANS DO NOO PRODUCE ANYTHING IN THE MEANTIME, THE CONCERNED ALLIES MUST DECLARE THEMSELVES IN AGREEMENT WITH THE DEPLOYMENT OF THE NEUTRON WEAPON ON THEIR TERRITORY.
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3. GIVEN THE RELUCTANCE IN SOME NATO COUNTRIES CONCERNING THE NEUTRON BOMB, THE AMERICANS WANTED VERY MUCH TO KEEP THIS PRO-POSAL SECRET AS LONG AS POSSIBLE. WITH HIS STATEMENT IN NORWAY, LUNS HAS PREMATURELY FACED THE NATO WITH NO ALTERNATIVE, ALTHOUGH WASHINGTON HAD WANTED TO TRY OUT AND DISCUSS THE IDEA WITH THE ALLIES CALMLY. IT HAS ALSO COME OUT THAT ESPECIALLY

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FRANCE IS OPPOSED TO AMERICA'S PROPOSED COURSE FOR THE NEUTRON WEAPON. INHPARIS THEY ARZ OPPOSED TO THE IDEA THAT THE ENEMY MUST BE ASKED IF WACH NEW TYPE OF WEAPON CAN BE DEPOLYED.
END QUOTE.

4.-- STORY WAS DATELINED WASHINGTON/THE HAGUE. POST BELIEVES THAT WASHINGTON SOURCE WAS VISITING DUTCH PARLIAMENTARIAN AND THAT REPORTER ALSO USED BRUSSELS SOURCZS. ALTHOUGH NOT BY-LINED, HAGUE BUREAU CHIEF HAN HANSEN WROTE PIECE.

5. -- OTHER PAPERS NOW CARRYING SAME SUBSTANCE OF U.S. PROPOSALS, INCLUDING ROLE OF ALLIES, WHICH NOT CARRIED IN ORIGINAL LUNS STORIES FROM NORWAY.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, SALT (ARMS CONTROL)
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 07 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978THEHA01194
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780102-1254
Format: TEL
From: THE HAGUE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
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Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780395/aaaaddal.tel
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Litigation Code IDs:
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Litigation History:
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Message ID: 23dd97cb-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
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Review Date: 25 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3411589
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ARTICLE ON ER/RB DISCUSSIONS
TAGS: MNUC, PARM, UR, US, NL
To: USNATO
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/23dd97cb-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
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